

## TRACKING BRAND USER PATTERNS BY HEAVY, MODERATE AND LIGHT TV VIEWERS

Most advertisers who rely heavily on TV as their primary communications medium are concerned about the fact that heavy viewers—who account for about 20% of the population—get 40-50% of their TV “ad weight,” while light viewers (also about 20% of the total population) receive a mere 3-5% of their GRP tonnage. As we have noted elsewhere in this volume, advertisers often prod their ad agencies to find new ways to divert media weight from the heavy to the light viewing segments of their target group. However, as we’ve said, this is not easily done when only using conventional TV, and the trade-offs in CPMs and total media weight often argue against such a move.

One of the most surprising aspects of targeting light consumers is the lack of serious research or testing regarding the potential value of such viewers to the advertiser and, more importantly, whether a heavy-up effort against this segment is really a sound strategy. In order to provide some perspective on this issue, Mediamark Research & Intelligence, LLC. (MRI) provided us with product and brand user/buyer data by TV viewing quintile for a large number of product categories that are all heavily invested in TV advertising. Our findings confirmed the results of similar analyses we conducted in the 1980s and 1990s; despite the extremely disproportionate concentration of GRPs against heavy viewers relative to light viewers, on the whole, this seemed to have little or no effect on the degree to which heavy or light viewers favored one brand over another.

To demonstrate this point, we have selected a number of product categories and, within them, their leading brands, and linked the relative incidence of product purchase or use by TV viewing quintiles. These range from the heaviest viewing 20% (Quintile I) to the lightest viewing 20% (Quintile V). The accompanying tables provide summaries of the results for owners of imported car brands (first table); hotel stays, women’s clothing and personal computers (second table); paint/stain, laundry detergent and dry dog food (third table); bar soap, meal/dietary supplements and children’s vitamins (fourth table); butter, cold cuts and salad dressing (fifth table); snack cakes, artificial sweetener and frozen pizza (sixth table); beverages (seventh table); and family restaurants/steakhouses (eighth table).

The first table reveals that adults who own new foreign cars were more likely than the total population to be among TV’s lightest viewers. Other product categories showed greater degrees of variation; surprisingly, frozen pizza brands had strong representation among both heavy and light viewers. Yet in most cases, light viewers received much less ad weight for the brands than did heavy viewers.

It is possible—subject to sample size limitations—to slice and dice the MRI studies by demographics within heavy-light viewer groups, or by singling out heavy product users/buyers in a similar manner, but the overriding sense we have of such evaluations (with a few exceptions) is that the effects of heavy-light ad weight that competing brands attain using TV seem to cancel each other out. In other words, if you are a heavy TV-spending brand in a competitive set with rival brands who buy their media similarly, then virtually all of the brands overload heavy users with “excess” GRPs while “underweighting” light viewers. The result is that brand shares are more or less unaffected among heavy-light viewer segments, since each brand obtains about the same “share of voice” in each quintile, effectively drowning each other out.

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*Tracking Brand User Patterns By Heavy, Moderate & Light TV Viewers Continued*

This raises some questions. Would a brand that attains, say, 10,000 GRPs nationwide, score significant sales gains among light viewers if it sacrificed 500 or 1,000 heavy viewer rating points for 100-200 added among light viewer ones? And could it do so while holding its own among the heavy viewers? The answer depends upon many considerations, for example, how much of a “share of voice” increase could the brand afford to lay in among light viewers? Are we talking about a 10% increase, or 25-50%? Certainly expectations of market share hikes induced by a 10% GRP increase among light viewers are dubious, since these would be incremental GRPs, laid in over an existing base that has already attained some measure of ad awareness levels. A 50% light viewer GRP increase—if feasible—might make quite a difference, however, providing the advertiser was willing to take risks with his heavy viewer sales positioning to accommodate such a move.

Another issue is the likelihood that light viewers not only watch far less television than the norm, but are also less attuned to the medium from an advertising receptivity standpoint. Can one attain the same levels of ad awareness with 100 light viewer GRPs as one gets with 100 GRPs directed at heavy viewers who are generally more favorably disposed to TV commercials?

The nature of the ad campaign and the product class advertised are also factors. New campaigns for unique products may work better among light TV viewers—since they may be caught up by the novelty, as opposed to the seemingly redundant messages of “me too” products. This, like most aspects of the heavy-light quintile question, is highly speculative.

Finally, there is the obvious option of using other media—particularly magazines and the Internet—to balance media weight among heavy and light TV viewer groups. Here, too, all of the evidence suggests that, GRP weighting aside, telling a consumer the advertiser’s story using two or three modes of communication produces better overall awareness and motivational results than just pounding it out solely via TV commercials.

A multitude of variables should be considered when the client raises concerns about light viewers. Unfortunately, few advertisers provide their media people or their ad agency counterparts with worthwhile information to guide them in such deliberations. Actual market tests exploring light viewer heavy-ups are few and far between and, even in the pretesting of new campaigns, it is rare indeed to find any indicators of the ad receptivity of heavy versus light viewers, nor of their potential susceptibility to the sales pitch used in the campaign.

This leaves the whole burden on media planners, who can manipulate GRP audience statistics in one way or another until the cows come home, but never provide a definitive answer. If the client insists on targeting light viewers, the agency will do its best to respond by tailoring its TV buys towards program genres or cable channels that lean in this direction, or by recommending an infusion of “other” media. Sadly, few advertisers who go this route will bother to see if it improves their ROI, or explore both the long term and short term effects to provide vital reference points for future deliberations. And so the question of whether or not to target light TV viewers comes up over and over again and generates the same highly subjective answers.

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*Tracking Brand User Patterns By Heavy, Moderate & Light TV Viewers Continued*

## RELATIVE INDICES OF ADULT FOREIGN CAR BRAND OWNERS BY TV VIEWING QUINTILES

	HEAVIEST					LIGHTEST				
	I	II	III	IV	V	I	II	III	IV	V
<b>Own Foreign Vehicle</b>										
Acura <sup>1</sup>	62	82	116	110	130					
Audi	55	90	92	134	129					
BMW	59	76	131	117	117					
Honda	67	89	108	117	119					
Hyundai	76	105	114	106	100					
Infiniti <sup>1</sup>	59	116	111	126	88					
Isuzu <sup>1</sup>	78	101	140	85	96					
Jaguar <sup>1</sup>	67	81	145	119	88					
Kia <sup>1</sup>	77	90	110	123	99					
Land Rover <sup>1</sup>	114	70	84	41	191					
Lexus	45	95	114	119	128					
Mazda	67	86	119	122	106					
Mercedes	85	93	99	116	107					
Mitsubishi <sup>1</sup>	58	113	127	98	105					
Nissan	85	102	118	96	98					
Porsche <sup>1</sup>	83	81	138	122	76					
SAAB <sup>1</sup>	57	80	72	110	180					
Scion <sup>1</sup>	58	101	148	106	86					
Subaru <sup>1</sup>	46	89	123	102	140					
Suzuki <sup>1</sup>	93	118	80	96	113					
Toyota	66	92	110	119	113					
Volkswagen	48	88	98	132	134					
Volvo <sup>1</sup>	48	93	125	118	116					

<sup>1</sup>Projections relatively unstable; use with caution.

Source: Mediamark Research & Intelligence, LLC. (MRI), spring 2008.

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Tracking Brand User Patterns By Heavy, Moderate & Light TV Viewers Continued

## RELATIVE INDICES OF ADULT HOTEL STAYS, WOMEN'S CLOTHING PURCHASED AND HOME PC OWNERSHIP BY TV VIEWING QUINTILES

	HEAVIEST					LIGHTEST				
	I	II	III	IV	V	I	II	III	IV	V
<b>Hotels &amp; Motels</b>										
<b>Stayed At Any In Last 12 Months</b>										
Best Western	66	104	112	109	109					
Comfort Inn	72	93	103	117	115					
Country Inn & Suites	64	76	98	137	126					
Courtyard (by Marriott)	51	89	112	133	116					
Days Inn	85	98	110	87	120					
Embassy Suites	64	79	108	133	117					
Fairfield Inn (by Marriott)	64	84	108	104	140					
Hampton Inn	65	82	105	128	120					
Hilton	47	77	121	139	115					
Holiday Inn	65	112	110	96	117					
Holiday Inn Express	69	103	116	105	107					
Hyatt	47	73	132	123	126					
La Quinta Inn	79	91	124	108	98					
Marriott Hotel, Resort and Suite	57	93	133	114	104					
Motel 6	91	103	114	88	104					
Quality Inn	77	86	111	80	146					
Ramada Inn	95	59	116	91	139					
Super 8	111	100	98	77	114					
<b>Women's Clothing</b>										
<b>Bought Any</b>										
Suit (With Skirt)	121	69	107	110	94					
Evening Dress	54	77	128	122	119					
Maternity Clothes	103	71	100	116	110					
Designer Jeans	69	93	119	109	110					
Sports Bra	75	98	96	109	122					
Girdle/Shapewear	101	98	103	107	92					
Sweatpants	93	89	106	107	105					
Swimsuit	59	94	117	118	112					
<b>Personal Computers</b>										
<b>Own At Home</b>										
Desktop	85	99	105	106	104					
Laptop/Notebook/Tablet	73	91	107	116	111					
Acer	82	107	99	103	108					
Compaq	90	96	98	116	100					
Dell	78	99	111	106	106					
e Machines	93	115	101	98	94					
Gateway	89	105	103	101	102					
Hewlett-Packard (HP)	90	94	106	107	104					
Sony Vaio	70	91	108	123	107					
Toshiba	81	83	97	131	108					

Source: Mediamark Research & Intelligence, LLC. (MRI), spring 2008.

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Tracking Brand User Patterns By Heavy, Moderate &amp; Light TV Viewers Continued

## RELATIVE INDICES OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS PURCHASED BY TV VIEWING QUINTILES

	HEAVIEST				LIGHTEST
	I	II	III	IV	V
<b>Paint/Stain</b>					
<b>Bought In Last 12 Months</b>					
Ace	89	95	95	92	128
Behr	63	98	116	111	113
Benjamin Moore	66	88	103	127	116
Glidden	84	109	114	104	90
Olympic Stain	88	134	98	96	84
Sherwin Williams	80	89	116	121	94
Wal-Mart	91	104	98	94	113
<i>Heavy Users (8+ Gallons In Last 12 Months)</i>	78	99	102	114	107
<b>Soaps &amp; Detergents For Regular Laundry</b>					
<b>Households Used In Last 6 Months</b>					
All (Regular)	109	93	101	98	100
Bold	137	77	109	111	66
Cheer Free & Gentle	107	104	99	92	98
Dreft	83	80	122	102	112
Dynamo	109	98	108	86	98
Era Max	121	73	100	90	116
Fab	124	123	94	78	81
Gain with Bleach	135	107	82	96	79
Ivory Snow	132	77	84	95	111
Tide With Downy	97	90	115	107	91
Wisk	114	105	98	86	97
Woolite Liquid	108	108	113	93	78
Xtra	132	104	88	86	89
<i>Heavy Users (8+ Washloads In Last 7 Days)</i>	82	99	107	106	105
<b>Packaged Dry Dog Food</b>					
<b>Households Used In Last 6 Months</b>					
Beneful	103	100	114	86	97
Iams	91	86	116	105	102
Kibbles 'N Bits	124	91	117	83	85
Nutro/Nutro Max	75	101	104	106	115
Ol' Roy	126	111	90	80	93
Pedigree Complete Nutrition	120	98	106	85	91
Purina Dog Chow	96	86	98	107	113
<i>Heavy Users (25+ Pounds In Last 30 Days)</i>	91	98	111	96	103

Source: Mediamark Research &amp; Intelligence, LLC. (MRI), spring 2008.

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Tracking Brand User Patterns By Heavy, Moderate & Light TV Viewers Continued

## RELATIVE INDICES OF PERSONAL CARE BAR SOAPS, MEAL/DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS AND CHILDREN'S VITAMINS USED BY TV VIEWING QUINTILES

	HEAVIEST					LIGHTEST				
	I	II	III	IV	V	I	II	III	IV	V
<b>Personal Care Bar Soaps</b>										
<b>Used In Last 6 Months</b>										
Aveeno	95	92	75	116	123					
Camay	170	72	97	81	80					
Caress	112	87	96	104	101					
Dial (Regular)	108	109	106	88	89					
Dove Sensitive Skin	116	96	99	101	88					
Irish Spring Original	121	99	100	88	92					
Ivory	100	102	107	94	97					
Jergens	112	120	85	104	79					
Lava	144	129	66	63	98					
Lever 2000	101	91	113	93	102					
Neutrogena	99	70	107	94	130					
Olay	112	92	96	98	101					
Palmolive	120	79	102	115	85					
Safeguard	122	115	115	82	65					
Suave	86	121	103	94	95					
Tone	124	105	91	105	76					
Zest	122	101	99	92	86					
<i>Heavy Users (60+ Times In Last 30 Days)</i>	<i>103</i>	<i>105</i>	<i>103</i>	<i>96</i>	<i>92</i>					
<b>Meal/Dietary Supplements</b>										
<b>Used In Last 6 Months</b>										
Boost	142	118	116	76	48					
Carnation Instant Breakfast	149	97	100	97	56					
Ensure	152	107	87	67	88					
Glucerna <sup>1</sup>	107	160	148	62	23					
Metabolife <sup>1</sup>	64	84	127	68	157					
Slim-Fast	106	107	114	97	77					
TrimSpa <sup>1</sup>	129	146	60	91	74					
<i>Heavy Users (8+ Times In Last 7 Days)<sup>1</sup></i>	<i>111</i>	<i>114</i>	<i>112</i>	<i>94</i>	<i>68</i>					
<b>Vitamins For Children</b>										
<b>Households Used In Last 6 Months</b>										
Flintstones Vitamins	72	97	104	110	117					
One-A-Day Kids <sup>1</sup>	96	63	104	103	134					
Poly Vi Sol (Drops) <sup>1</sup>	89	88	97	110	116					
Vitaball <sup>1</sup>	38	119	131	100	112					
<i>Heavy Users (15+ Times Last 7 Days)<sup>1</sup></i>	<i>81</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>110</i>	<i>105</i>					

<sup>1</sup>Projections relatively unstable; use with caution.

Source: Mediamark Research & Intelligence, LLC. (MRI), spring 2008.

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Tracking Brand User Patterns By Heavy, Moderate &amp; Light TV Viewers Continued

## RELATIVE INDICES OF BUTTER, COLD CUTS AND SALAD DRESSINGS USED BY TV VIEWING QUINTILES

	HEAVIEST					LIGHTEST				
	I	II	III	IV	V	I	II	III	IV	V
<b>Butter</b>										
<b>Households Used In Last 6 Months</b>										
Breakstone	114	84	87	116	100					
Land O' Lakes Light	111	98	112	98	82					
Land O' Lakes (Regular)	97	102	102	102	96					
Shedd's Spread Country										
Crock Spreadable Butter	116	107	93	92	92					
Tillamook	66	82	101	116	134					
<i>Heavy Users (4+ Lbs. In Last 30 Days)</i>	<i>106</i>	<i>96</i>	<i>108</i>	<i>91</i>	<i>100</i>					
<b>Cold Cuts</b>										
<b>Households Used In Last 6 Months</b>										
Armour	139	112	72	86	90					
Boars Head	92	99	116	99	95					
Carl Buddig	93	103	93	106	104					
Healthy Choice	87	96	94	117	106					
Hillshire Farm/Deli Select	99	97	99	107	97					
Kahns	197	105	82	76	40					
Louis Rich Carving Board	101	82	119	108	90					
Oscar Mayer (Regular)	122	108	94	83	93					
<i>Heavy Users (3+ Lbs. In Last 30 Days)</i>	<i>103</i>	<i>102</i>	<i>102</i>	<i>99</i>	<i>95</i>					
<b>Salad Dressing</b>										
<b>Households Used In Last 6 Months</b>										
Good Seasons Fat Free	84	109	133	90	84					
Hidden Valley Ranch										
Regular Bottled	101	99	100	98	101					
Ken's	83	101	115	97	105					
Kraft Light Done Right	69	101	105	115	110					
Marie's	90	120	95	100	96					
Marzetti's	73	107	112	112	95					
Newman's Own	67	95	116	107	116					
Seven Seas (Regular)	109	119	114	84	75					
Western Salad Dressing	118	119	87	72	105					
Wish-Bone Salad Spritzers	94	107	103	89	107					
<i>Heavy Users (3+ Bottles Or Packages In Last 30 Days)</i>	<i>104</i>	<i>102</i>	<i>102</i>	<i>98</i>	<i>94</i>					

Source: Mediamark Research &amp; Intelligence, LLC. (MRI), spring 2008.

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Tracking Brand User Patterns By Heavy, Moderate & Light TV Viewers Continued

## RELATIVE INDICES OF SNACK CAKES, ARTIFICIAL SWEETENERS & FROZEN PIZZA USED BY TV VIEWING QUINTILES

	HEAVIEST					LIGHTEST				
	I	II	III	IV	V	I	II	III	IV	V
<b>Snack Cakes</b>										
<b>Households Used In Last 6 Months</b>										
Dolly Madison	129	95	106	96	74					
Drake's	117	89	107	100	88					
Entenmann's	102	110	111	94	84					
Hostess Twinkies	126	99	101	88	85					
Little Debbie	111	96	95	100	98					
MoonPie	138	94	101	86	81					
Snackwell's	99	96	85	109	111					
Tastykake	121	86	94	106	94					
<i>Heavy Users (4+ Boxes Or Packages In Last 30 Days)</i>	125	100	92	98	85					
<b>Artificial Sweeteners</b>										
<b>Used In Last 6 Months</b>										
Equal	108	108	105	98	81					
NutraSweet	116	113	89	106	76					
Splenda	103	95	110	98	95					
Sweet 'n Low	131	104	98	97	70					
<i>Heavy Users (8+ Times In Last 7 Days)</i>	135	103	104	86	71					
<b>Frozen Pizza</b>										
<b>Households Used In Last 6 Months</b>										
California Pizza Kitchen	59	80	117	110	134					
Celeste Pizza For One	111	107	95	89	98					
DiGiorno Rising Crust Pizza	85	99	95	105	118					
Freschetta	75	87	104	110	125					
Healthy Choice	91	117	87	107	98					
Lean Cuisine	69	111	100	97	123					
McCain Ellio's	84	116	96	95	109					
Stouffer's French Bread Pizza	120	98	95	89	98					
Tombstone Original	96	94	100	98	112					
Totino's Party Pizza	115	99	96	94	96					
<i>Heavy Users (4+ Packages In Last 30 Days)</i>	95	97	100	99	108					

Source: Mediamark Research & Intelligence, LLC. (MRI), spring 2008.

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Tracking Brand User Patterns By Heavy, Moderate &amp; Light TV Viewers Continued

## RELATIVE INDICES OF BEVERAGES DRANK BY TV VIEWING QUINTILES

	HEAVIEST					LIGHTEST				
	I	II	III	IV	V	I	II	III	IV	V
<b>Energy Drinks</b>										
<b>Drank In Last 6 Months</b>										
Full Throttle	69	79	121	93	137					
Gatorade Energy Drink	111	104	99	93	94					
Monster	67	104	87	111	131					
Red Bull	80	95	110	101	115					
Rockstar	61	96	83	128	132					
<i>Heavy Users (5+ Drinks In Last 30 Days)</i>	76	93	112	94	125					
<b>Imported Beer/Ale</b>										
<b>Drank In Last 6 Months</b>										
Amstel Light	51	97	109	119	124					
Bass <sup>1</sup>	32	101	90	112	166					
Corona Light	66	84	125	108	117					
Dos Equis	33	88	113	140	127					
Fosters	66	71	135	119	109					
Guinness Stout <sup>1</sup>	58	80	75	119	168					
Harp <sup>1</sup>	28	69	79	124	200					
Heineken	90	98	92	104	115					
<i>Heavy Users (4+ Glasses In Last 7 Days)</i>	79	107	97	105	113					
<b>Regular Tea</b>										
<b>Households Used In Last 6 Months</b>										
Bigelow	73	101	108	101	118					
Celestial Seasonings	76	92	108	102	121					
Constant Comment	85	103	133	66	113					
Good Earth	50	88	96	120	147					
Lipton Regular Tea	108	100	103	97	91					
Luzianne	120	106	93	88	93					
Nestea	112	89	80	116	103					
Red Rose	100	94	101	85	120					
Salada	120	89	110	88	92					
Stash	68	93	95	116	127					
Tazo	38	84	115	121	143					
Tetley	112	90	110	83	105					
Twinings	64	82	108	110	135					
<i>Heavy Users (4+ Cups Or Glasses In Average Day)</i>	109	100	93	97	100					

<sup>1</sup>Projections relatively unstable; use with caution.

Source: Mediamark Research &amp; Intelligence, LLC. (MRI), spring 2008.

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*Tracking Brand User Patterns By Heavy, Moderate & Light TV Viewers Continued*

## RELATIVE INDICES OF ADULT FAMILY RESTAURANTS/STEAK HOUSES BOUGHT AT BY TV VIEWING QUINTILES

	HEAVIEST <span style="float: right;">LIGHTEST</span>				
	I	II	III	IV	V
<b>Bought At Last 6 Months</b>					
Applebee's	85	99	109	107	100
Bennigans	90	99	106	119	86
Bertucci's	46	92	140	128	95
Big Boy	86	123	126	94	71
Bob Evans Farms	90	129	109	90	81
California Pizza Kitchen	41	85	112	124	137
Carrabba's Italian Grill	65	108	131	93	102
The Cheesecake Factory	70	86	118	122	104
Chili's Grill & Bar	70	91	122	119	99
CiCi's Pizza	95	102	104	96	103
Cracker Barrel	89	108	109	101	93
Dave & Buster's	86	71	120	128	95
Denny's	112	111	99	98	81
Friendly's	77	112	127	76	108
Hooters	82	103	108	112	96
International House Of Pancakes (IHOP)	100	101	100	97	101
Joe's Crab Shack	58	108	143	105	86
Marie Callenders	83	137	87	81	112
Old Country Buffet	124	105	80	91	99
Olive Garden	72	107	106	110	105
On The Border	79	91	110	105	115
Outback Steakhouse	82	98	118	114	88
Ponderosa	108	131	86	96	78
Red Lobster	100	106	113	100	80
Red Robin	65	88	118	113	115
Romano's Macaroni Grill	56	115	116	108	104
Ruby Tuesday	79	102	115	113	91
Smokey Bones	120	108	117	98	57
T.G.I. Friday's	78	101	109	107	105
Tony Roma's	108	103	95	112	81
Uno Chicago Grill	57	92	123	114	115
<i>Heavy Users (4+ Number Of Times In Last 30 Days)</i>	99	108	113	94	85

*Source: Mediamark Research & Intelligence, LLC. (MRI), spring 2008.*

